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Lindsay Renews Demand For Congress Rein on CIA

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Bay of Pigs Jungle Cited

By GUY RICHARDS

U.S. Rep. John V. Lindsay today called for renewed pressure for the creation of a joint committee of Congress to screen the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency.

His call came in the wake of revelations by the anti-Castro Cuban brigade leaders of the "Bay of Pigs" invasion that the CIA ran the whole show and planned to defy President Kennedy if he ordered it cancelled.

Their charges are made in a book which goes on sale May 18.

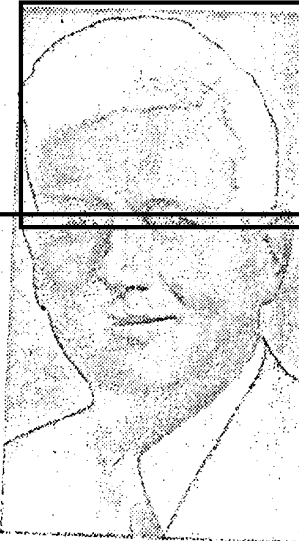
EMPHASIZES POINT

In an exclusive telephone interview from Washington, Rep. Lindsay, New York Republican, and author of several studies of the CIA, said:

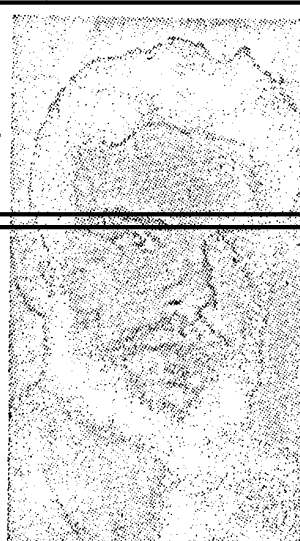
"The story of the Cuban brigade leaders emphasizes a point I have been making for some time.

"It's absolutely essential that a joint committee of Congress take full responsibility for acting as a watch-dog over the CIA. A bill to that effect is already in the Rules Committee. It should be taken out and voted on.

"The need is just as urgent even if the book turns out not to be in all respects accurate. Any way you look at it, it's a perfect case study of what can happen under the present set-up."



REP. JOHN LINDSAY



MANUEL ARTIME

The book is "The Bay of Pigs" published by W. W. Norton & Co. It was written by Haynes Johnson with the collaboration of the four leaders of Brigade 2506--Manuel Artime, Jose Perez San Roman, Erneido Oliva and Enrique Ruiz-Williams.

One of the most blunder-ridden operations in military history, the "Bay of Pigs" amphibious landing took place on April 17, 1961.

A brigade leader who was captured and later ransomed from Cuba sat at my desk recently and went over the action day by day. He is Erneido Oliva, 31, now a 2nd lieutenant in the U. S. Army.

BATTLE OF TANKS

"It's that first night that I'll always remember the longest.

"My battalion had landed and fought its way to Playa Larga, site of a road intersection, about a mile from Red Beach.

"It was pitch black, no moon or stars.

"Suddenly I heard some of their Stalin tanks moving towards us. They were on the same road we were on.

"We had two Sherman tanks facing them. When the Stalins were only fifty yards away, our tanks opened fire. What a sight it was! A pitch black night suddenly turned into hell on earth by the tanks' muzzle-blasts!

"It was such a turmoil that none of the tank-gunners could see well enough to hit the other tanks and the Stalins crashed right into our own Shermans and piled up into an enormous smoking junk-heap of twisted steel.

"This big metal mountain became a fine ambushade for our riflemen and machine-gunners.

"I'd been saving our mortars and some white phosphorous grenades until the right psychological moment. It came at three o'clock in the morning.

"When the enemy's men had about enveloped us, with their

assault lines stretching into the marsh on both sides, we set off the white phosphorous. I sprayed the road and it sprayed the marsh and it terrified them. They bolted for the rear screaming, "Oh, my mother my mother, my mother!" It was a great moment."

But the brigade's high hopes were doomed.

Beleagured, without air or naval support, and with the ships carrying ammunition and reinforcements sunk by Castro's planes. It wasn't long before all the survivors were in Cuban jails.

OTHER ALLEGATIONS

Other allegations made in the book are:

• Though the CIA assured President Kennedy it had complied with his instructions that the Cubans be given an alternative battle plan in case the original one ran into trouble, the CIA had done no such thing.

• The CIA told the Cubans that if they ran into trouble the Americans were going to come ashore to support them.

• Though the CIA told the President that no Americans would land, the fact was that the first men ashore were American frogmen.

The charges in the book are

Continued

likely to turn the spotlight on the CIA men assigned to help prepare the brigade for the invasion. Undoubtedly members of Congress will want to question them.

SUPERVISION PLAN

The charges also will probably revive interest in the substance of a recent magazine article by Rep. Lindsay on the CIA in it he called for the creation of the joint Congressional committee to replace the "four small subcommittees" whose surveillance of the CIA is "both cursory and sporadic."

In the same article Rep. Lindsay wrote:

"Two major reversals in our foreign policy within the last three years have shaken the poise of the Intelligence branch of the United States Government to its underpinnings: the abortive adventure at the Bay of Pigs, and the blinding miasma of United States policy that arose in South Viet Nam during the Diem era.

"The immediate dangers past . . . it seems indisputable that in both cases the three principal instruments of U.S. foreign policy—the State Department, the military and the Central Intelligence Agency—were at crucial times pulling in separate directions"

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